

**Kirkland Transportation Commission
Meeting Notes
Wednesday, January 25, 2012**

Call to Order

Chair Pfundt called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Members Present: Tom Neir, Tom Pendergrass, Mike Snow, Carl Wilson, Sandeep Singhal, Colin Pate. Kirkland Staff Present: Dave Godfrey, Ray Steiger, Dave Snider
Public Works Department

Approval of meeting notes from December 7, 2011 meeting.

Approved unanimously.

Public Comment

William (last name unrecorded by staff). Supported the idea of a rail and trail facility, and asked the Commission to support the idea of leaving rails on the ERC. He stated that the City would have to pay the cost of returning the rails should a freight railroad choose to reactivate the line. He also emphasized the value of the existing rail line as a potential alternate route to the Boeing Renton plant (if a connection over I-405 were re-established). **Will Knedlik**, President of Eastside Rail Now also supported the concept of leaving the existing rails in place. He offered four points for leaving the rail in place: 1) The Port of Seattle bought the railroad to protect freight mobility and access to the airport. 2) Sound Transit polling shows that 64% support commuter rail. 3) Making the existing rail reliable is relatively easy, but building new rails is extremely costly. 4) Before rails are removed a thorough study of the options should be made. He also commented that the rail line passes near several post secondary institutions.

CIP discussion

Dave Snider led a discussion about potential CIP projects particularly in the new neighborhoods. He discussed the Transportation Plan from the early 1990s as well as the "ad hoc" project ranking system versus the Active Transportation Plan scoring. The Commission was concerned that the Cross Kirkland Trail did not rate more highly on the ATP sidewalk completion scoring system. The Commission commented that it would be helpful if there was a transportation plan that discusses the underpinning of the transportation vision. The Commission also requested more clarity about how an annual CIP process works and the role of the Commission in that process.

Level of Service/Concurrency

Staff presented a flow chart describing a process for concurrency. Commission members generally approved what was presented .

Eastside Rail Corridor

After receiving a brief update on due diligence activities, the Commission discussed their role in preparing a strategic plan for the corridor as listed on the Commission work plan. Main points included the idea that the Commission wanted to have a major role but would also work with other boards and commissions as needed. It was agreed that staff would prepare a memo from the Commission to Council for the February 21 meeting.

Updates from Commissioners and Staff

Staff commented that the Transportation Benefit District will be reviewed at the Council retreat. Singhal reported on the Park Bond Exploratory Committee; maintenance, ERC and Totem Lake Park improvements are current frontrunners for support. All other Commissioners had no comment.

Meeting adjourned Unanimously approved to adjourn 8:47 p.m.